GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4738
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2000
INDO-US COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
A. VENKATESH NAIK;AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA;JASWANT SINGH YADAV;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement regarding the setting up of Indo-US science and technology Forum has been signed recently ;

(b) if so , the details thereof ;

(c) the time to be taken to implement the agreement ;

(d) the benefits likely to be accrued to India as a result thereof ; and

(e) the details of Institutions on which the restrictions have been lifted by the U.S.A. ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a), (b), (c) and (d) Yes sir. An agreement on the Indo-US Science and Technology Forum was signed on March 21,2000 in New Delhi. The mainobjectives of the Forum are : 1) to facilitate and promote Indo-USinteraction of governments, academia and industry in science and technology and other related areas. 2) to focus on issues of common concern and activities of mutual benefit while exploring trends in science and technology. 3) to promote research and development, the transfer of technology and creation of a comprehensive electronic reference source for Indo-US scienceand technology cooperation. 4) to promote an active electronic exchange of ideas and opportunities in Indo-US science and technology cooperation. Theagreement has come into effect upon signing. The agreement on Indo-US Science and Technology Forum provides a platform for not onlythe inter-governmental interactions in S&T but also for interactions with the academic institutions and industry from the two countries. The Forum has the ability to raise resources from sources other than the governmental sources also. Thus the agreement provides for a very broad spectrum of activities and interactions in science and technology and other related areas which would be beneficial to India.

(e) 44 institutions under the Ministry of Defence, 7 institutionsunder the Department of Atomic Energy and two units of one public sector undertaking, have been removed from the entity list.